

shown the plant on which it had been discovered, immediately found some early mines. Adult moths of this species had been reared from mines found in our garden, and elsewhere in Guernsey, last year (Sterling, P.H., Costen, P.D.M., Austin, R.A., in press. *Cosmopterix pulchriuella* Chambers, 1875 [Lepidoptera: Cosmopterigidae] resident in the Channel Islands. *Entomologist's Gaz.*) and it was a particular pleasure to see that this beautiful but tiny moth had survived a winter here in which temperatures had on occasions been unusually low. It would appear that moths hatch during the late autumn and winter and remain as adults until May when egg-laying begins. Larvae are then found during the summer months with a generation of adults in late summer and early autumn, followed by another generation of larvae in the middle of autumn.

The night temperatures during Phil's visit were favourable for moths and on the morning of 31 May he took two specimens of a *Biselachista* species, one at each of the mercury vapour and actinic traps we ran in the garden, and these he subsequently identified as *Biselachista eleochariella*. On visiting the wetland near to me at La Claire Mare on the evening of 1 June he found a further specimen, suggesting that the species may be breeding there. *Biselachista eleochariella* is a local species in the British Isles, especially in the south, and this appears to be a new record for the Channel Islands.

No note about Guernsey moths is complete without the mention of W.A. Luff who in late Victorian times recorded over 450 species on Guernsey and Sark. And no Guernsey entomological expedition is complete without a search for the cases of *Luffia lapidella* the eponymous generic name of which was given in his honour by the founder of this journal. In contrast to those of *couspurcatella*, the habitat requirements of *lapidella* seemed far less specific and cases were found on many lichen-covered granite walls on Guernsey and Sark, both inland and on the coast, and in far greater numbers than those of *couspurcatella*.

A list of new records for the Channel Islands (VC 113) will appear subsequently in this journal in the annual Microlepidoptera Review, and fuller lists of all the species found in the *Report and Transactions of La Société Guernesiaise*.

I am grateful to Phil Sterling for the interest he shows in the moths of Guernsey and for the help and encouragement he continues to give me personally, not least in my attempts to understand the life cycle of *pulchriuella*.— P. D. M. COSTEN, La Broderie, La Claire Mare, St Peters, Guernsey, GY7 9QA. (E-mail: pcosten@guernsey.net)

Argyresthia trifasciata Staudinger (Lep: Yponomeutidae) - new for Wales

On 31 May 2003, I was in North Wales, at the home of John Smith, a member of Butterfly Conservation who lives at Marford, near Wrexham, in Denbighshire (VC 50). John identifies the macro-moths that come to his garden trap, but has little enthusiasm for the "micros". Hence after emptying the trap I returned home with several live moths, including two of a tiny, unfamiliar, but highly distinctive

Argyresthia species. This proved to be *Argyresthia trifasciata*. I forwarded a specimen to David Slade at the National Museum of Wales with the view that as this appeared to be a first for Wales, he might like to lodge a specimen in the Museum collection. Dave contacted John Langmaid, who was able to confirm that there were no previous records for Wales. The foodplants of *A. trifasciata* are Junipers *Juniperus* spp., Cedars *Thuja* spp., Cypresses *Chamaecyparis* spp. and *Cupressocyparis leylandii*. John Smith confirmed on the telephone that both cultivated Junipers and Cypresses are present in his own and adjacent gardens, but was unable to say whether any are recently planted examples that might have come from nurseries at some distance in Britain or indeed, from abroad. He also told me that only days after informing county recorder Bryan Formstone about the capture of *trifasciata*, Bryan contacted him to say that he too had captured a specimen of *trifasciata* in his garden, approximately half a mile from the site of the first captures.— MARTIN J. WHITE, 58 Victoria Quay, Maritime Quarter, Swansea SA1 3XG.

***Mompha langiella* (Hb.) (Lep:Momphidae) – the first records for North Hampshire, VC12**

In July 2003, John Robbins (Porlock) had been helping RE to identify *Mompha* mines on willow-herbs, which had been found locally in Fleet. Leaves of Broad-leaved Willow-herb *Epilobium montanum* had been mined by *Mompha locupletella*, but also, John suspected, by *M. langiella*. He advised finding occupied mines or cocoons and breeding through for confirmation.

This was a small problem, as some of the leaves had been taken from plants growing on the utility room roof of RE's house! They had been watered by a faulty overflow, which had been repaired and the plants had withered. He collected some cocoons on 18 July 2003 from these shrivelled plants and labelled them "*locupletella*?" Another few cocoons were taken on 19 July 2003, from another local *Epilobium montanum* plant, where *langiella* was also a suspected miner and labelled "*langiella*?" A few of each of these cocoons were then posted to IK, for breeding through.

A specimen of *M. langiella* emerged from the "*locupletella*?" batch in the post and IK had subsequent emergences on 25 and 31 July. RE had *M. langiella* emerge from this batch on 28 July, with two emergences from the "*langiella*?" batch on 5 August. From the leaves examined locally it seems that *M. langiella* was more numerous than *M. locupletella* and that they possibly occurred in mixed colonies but it will need careful examination of the willow-herbs during the coming season to establish this.

We very grateful to John Langmaid for confirming the identity of these moths, which we believe are the first examples for VC12.— ROB EDMUNDS, 32 Woodcote Green, Calthorpe Park, Fleet, Hants, GU51 4EY (E-mail: r.edmunds@ntlworld.com) & IAN KIMBER, 6 Bank Close, Littleborough, Lancs, OL15 0DP (E-mail: ian@ukmoths.force9.co.uk).